GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3194
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Rainwater Storage
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Jadhav Shri Sanjay Haribhau

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangements made for the harvesting of water during the rainy seasons for the purposes of drinking and irrigation in such rural areas where there is scarcity of water in the country;

(b) whether any assessment has been made with regard to storage of water through the said arrangements during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the volume of water in terms of cusecs stored during the said period and estimated to be stored during the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India", which envisages construction of 1.11 crore Artificial Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting structures in the Country to harness 85 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre) of water. The augmented ground water resources will enhance the availability of water for drinking, domestic, industrial and irrigation purpose. The Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments for implementation.

Special focus is given through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment ground water. In addition, priority has been given for construction of farm ponds in the year 2016-17 to harvest rain water.

Further, Department of Land Resources, Government of India is implementing "Watershed Development Component " of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchaai Yojana (PMKSY) since 2015-16. One of the major activity under the "Watershed Development Component', inter-alia includes rainwater harvesting .

(b) & (c) Data on quantum of rainwater being harvested in the States/UTs is not maintained Centrally. However, during XI Plan, CGWB has taken up Demonstrative Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge projects in 22 States of the Country, under Central Sector Scheme "Ground Water Management & Regulation". Under the scheme, 133 demonstrative recharge projects were approved for construction of recharge structures in various States/UTs with an anticipated annual recharge to ground water at about 55.20 MCM (Million Cubic Metre).

The impact assessment studies carried out in few projects has verified rise in ground water levels, increase in sustainability of ground water abstraction structures and enhancement in pumping duration.

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